



September 25, 2008

Honorable Mary Landrieu  
U.S. Senator  
724 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Landrieu,

Thank you very much for taking the lead in the Senate, with Senator Bond, to seek and obtain the signatures of 8 other Senators on the September 24, 2008, letter to President Bush, advocating for increased U.S. rice sales to Iraq, a key market for our industry. On behalf of the USA Rice Federation's producer, miller, and merchant members, we deeply appreciate your support for the issue and work on the letter.

The USA Rice Federation is working diligently to restore trade with Iraq. Recently, the Federation hosted members of the Iraqi Grain Board on a market information tour through rice country. We are hopeful that our initiatives to educate their officials will help to lead to increased purchases of high quality U.S. rice.

The Senate letter to the President is a key step in helping to expand U.S. rice exports to Iraq. The USA Rice Federation is grateful for your assistance and leadership and looks forward to working closely with you and other Senators on this important matter. Please call on us at any time if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Ward".

President and CEO  
USA Rice Federation

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